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Patent Amendment

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generating electronic authorization requests to an associated insurance company responsive to ones of said referral requests,
receiving an electronic authorizations/denial for each electronic authorization request, and
forwarding denied authorization requests to a third party human researcher for further research.

18 (New). The healthcare information system of claim 17 wherein said referral authorization circuitry further forwards referral requests that cannot be authorized electronically to a third party human researcher.

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19 (New). The healthcare information system of claim 17 and further comprising a central information system having a global database of referral information in communication with said provider office systems.

20 (New). The healthcare information system of claim 19 wherein said global database is corrected responsive to a denied referral.

21 (New). The healthcare information system of claim 17 wherein said authorization requests are EDI (electronic data interchange) messages.

22 (New). A method of providing referral information, comprising the steps of:

electronically receiving said referral requests from a plurality of provider office systems;

generating electronic authorization requests to an associated insurance company responsive to ones of said referral requests;

receiving an electronic authorization or denial in response to each electronic authorization request; and

forwarding denied requests to a third party human researcher for further research.

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23 (New). The method of claim 22 and further comprising the step of manually researching denied authorization requests.

24 (New). The method of claim 23 and further comprising the step of manually researching referral requests that cannot be authorized electronically.
